

OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS
RENDERED BY THE INTER-
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON
ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

VOLUME 2. Part 28. Pp. 263-274.

OPINION 158

On the status of the name *Locusta* Linnaeus,
1758 (Class Insecta, Order Orthoptera)

LONDON:

Printed by Order of the International Commission on
Zoological Nomenclature

Sold at the Publications Office of the Commission
41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7

1945

Price three shillings

(All rights reserved)

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION

The Officers of the Commission

President : Dr. Karl Jordan, Ph.D., F.R.S. (United Kingdom).

Secretary : Mr. Francis Hemming, C.M.G., C.B.E. (United Kingdom).

Assistant Secretary : Dr. James L. Peters (U.S.A.).

The Members of the Commission

Class 1946

Herr Professor Dr. Walter ARNDT (Germany).

Dr. William Thomas CALMAN (United Kingdom).

Professor Teiso ESAKI (Japan).

Professor Béla von HANKÓ (Hungary).

Dr. Tadeusz JACZEWSKI (Poland).

Dr. Norman R. STOLL (U.S.A.).

Class 1949

Senor Dr. Angel CABRERA (Argentina).

Mr. Francis HEMMING (United Kingdom) (*Secretary to the Commission*).

Dr. Karl JORDAN (United Kingdom) (*President of the Commission*).

Dr. Joseph PEARSON (Australia).

Monsieur le Docteur Jacques PELLEGRIN (France).

Herr Professor Dr. Rudolf RICHTER (Germany).

Class 1952

Senhor Dr. Afranio do AMARAL (Brazil).

Professor James Chester BRADLEY (U.S.A.).

Professor Ludovico di CAPORIACCO (Italy).

Professor J. R. DYMOND (Canada).

Dr. James L. PETERS (U.S.A.) (*Assistant Secretary to the Commission*).

Dr. Harold E. VOKES (U.S.A.).

Secretariat of the Commission :

British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London, S.W. 7.

Publications Office of the Commission :

41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W. 7.

Personal address of the Secretary :

83, Fellows Road (Garden Flat), London, N.W. 3.



OPINION 158.

ON THE STATUS OF THE NAME *LOCUSTA* LINNAEUS, 1758 (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER ORTHOPTERA).

SUMMARY.—Under suspension of the rules it is hereby declared that the name *Locusta* Linnaeus (Class Insecta, Order Orthoptera) is to be accepted as of subgeneric value as from 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 431) and that its type is *Gryllus migratorius* Linnaeus, 1758. The name *Locusta* Linnaeus, validated as above and with the type indicated above, is hereby added to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* as Name No. 605.

I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE.

The name *Locusta* was included in the long list of generic names drawn from many Phyla and Classes dealt with in the paper published in 1915 by Commissioner C. Apstein under the title "*Nomina conservanda. Unter Mitwirkung zahlreicher Spezialisten herausgegeben von Prof. C. Apstein, Berlin*" (*SitzBer. Ges. naturf. Fr. Berl.* 1915 (5) : 119–202). Commissioner Apstein proposed that all the names included in his list should be treated by the Commission as "*nomina conservanda*" (*i.e.* that they should be placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*) with the types indicated in his list.

2. Commissioner Apstein in his list attributed the name *Locusta* (Class Insecta, Order Orthoptera) not to Linnaeus but to "Geer" as from 1773 and proposed that "*viridissima* L., 1758," *i.e.* *Gryllus viridissimus* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 430) should be declared to be the type of this genus.

II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THIS CASE.

3. Commissioner Apstein communicated his list to the Commission in the course of 1915 and in December of that year the Secretary to the Commission suggested that the most satisfactory way of dealing with his proposal would be to refer the various portions of which it was made up to special advisory committees on the nomenclature of the groups concerned. This course was adopted but, as was inevitable, the reports from the Committees were a long time in coming in. In 1922, the Commission agreed

to render an *Opinion* (*Opinion* 74), in which they pointed out that they had no power to adopt *en bloc* the list submitted by Commissioner Apstein but indicated that they were prepared "to consider names separately upon presentation of reasonably complete evidence."

4. In 1929, Commissioner A. Handlirsch submitted to the Commission a further list of generic names in the Order Orthoptera which he recommended be added to the *Official List*. Commissioner Handlirsch's list contained a number of names already submitted to the Commission in Commissioner Apstein's list. Among these names was *Locusta*, which Commissioner Handlirsch, like Commissioner Apstein, attributed to De Geer, 1773, and for which he also proposed that "*viridissima* L., 1758" should be recognised as the type.

5. Later in 1929, the Commission invited the International Committee on Entomological Nomenclature to consider (a) the list of 52 names of genera of the Order Orthoptera submitted by Commissioner Apstein, (b) the report on certain of the names contained therein furnished at their request by Dr. A. N. Caudell of the United States National Museum,¹ and (c) the list of 28 names submitted by Commissioner Handlirsch, and to submit recommendations to the Commission in regard thereto.

6. This request involved a considerable amount of preliminary study by the International Committee, and it was accordingly not until their meeting at Madrid in the second week of September 1935 that the International Committee were able to draw up a resolution, for submission to the International Commission, in regard to the names in the Order Orthoptera on which they had been asked to advise.

7. When the International Committee came to examine the case of the name *Locusta*, they found that the situation had changed materially since the receipt of Commissioner Apstein's original proposal. The name *Locusta* was no longer commonly attributed to De Geer but was treated almost universally as having been published by Linnaeus in 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1: 431), where it was introduced as one of six subdivisions (*Mantis*, *Acrida*, *Bulla*, *Acheta*, *Tettigonia*, *Locusta*) of the genus *Gryllus*. Further, as regards the type of *Locusta*, it was now recognised that, if *Locusta* was to be treated as having been published in the 10th edition of the *Systema Naturae*, its type

¹ The name *Locusta* was not one of the names dealt with in the report here referred to.

could not possibly be *Gryllus viridissimus* Linnaeus, 1758 (as proposed by Commissioners Apstein and Handlirsch), since on that occasion Linnaeus had placed *Gryllus viridissimus* in the subdivision which he called *Tettigonia* and not in the subdivision *Locusta*. Moreover, Dr. B. P. Uvarov, a member of the International Committee, had in 1921 (*Bull. ent. Res.* **12**: 135-163) published a revision of the genus *Locusta* in which he had pointed out that the first valid type designation for this genus was that of *Gryllus Locusta migratorius* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) **1**: 432) by Curtis in 1836 (*Brit. Ent.* **3**: 608). Since that date, that species had become generally accepted as the type of *Locusta*. In these circumstances, it seemed as though all that was required in this case was to recommend the International Commission to add the name *Locusta* Linnaeus, 1758, to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*, with *Gryllus migratorius* Linnaeus, 1758, as type, that species having been validly so designated under the International Code.

8. At this stage in the consideration of this case, Commissioner Karl Jordan, Secretary to the International Committee, informed the Committee that at their meeting held at Padua on 30th August 1930, the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature had decided in principle to render an *Opinion* declaring that the various subdivisions of genera published by Linnaeus in 1758 (in the *Syst. Nat.*) are not to be accepted as of that date (1758) as of subgeneric value under the rules. An *Opinion* in this sense had recently been formally adopted by the Commission and would shortly be published.² It would be found that in that *Opinion* the Commission had made it clear that, if any group of specialists were to find that because of the literature in their group, the decision laid down in this *Opinion* would produce greater confusion than uniformity, the Commission would be prepared to consider individual cases submitted to them by the specialists concerned.

9. After further discussion, the International Committee were unanimously of the opinion that to deprive the name *Locusta* of its status as a name published by Linnaeus in 1758 would be likely to produce greater confusion than uniformity and that for this reason it was desirable that the International Commission should be asked to exclude the name *Locusta* from the scope of the general *Opinion* shortly to be published.² The Committee

² The *Opinion* here referred to was published as *Opinion* 124 in 1936 (*Smithson. misc. Coll.* **73** (No. 8) : 1-2).

were greatly strengthened in this view by the evident need of doing everything possible to secure stability of nomenclature in the case of a genus such as *Locusta* which contained species of very great economic importance and which had in consequence been widely used in technical publications outside the field of systematic entomology.

10. The International Committee accordingly adopted a resolution inviting the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to make use of their plenary powers to suspend the rules, in order to ensure that the name *Locusta* should have status as from its publication in the 10th edition of Linnaeus's *Systema Naturae*, to declare *Gryllus migratorius* Linnaeus, 1758, to be the type of the genus *Locusta* Linnaeus so validated and to add the name *Locusta* Linnaeus, 1758, with the above species as type, to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*.

11. This and other resolutions adopted by the International Committee on Entomological Nomenclature during its meeting held at Madrid were confirmed by the Sixth International Congress of Entomology at the Concilium Plenum held at Madrid on 12th September 1935.

III.—THE CONCLUSION REACHED BY THE COMMISSION.

12. When the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature met at Lisbon immediately after the close of the Sixth International Congress of Entomology in September 1935, they found themselves confronted with a large number of cases involving proposals for the suspension of the rules, in respect of some of which advertisements had not been published or, if published, had not been published for the prescribed period, owing to the illness of Dr. C. W. Stiles, Secretary to the Commission, or for other causes. In these circumstances, the Commission decided at their meeting held on the morning of Monday, 16th September 1935 (Lisbon Session, 2nd Meeting, Conclusion 9), that immediate consideration should be given to all cases submitted to the Commission that, in their judgment, had reached the stage at which a decision could properly be taken; that the By-Laws of the Commission should be suspended during the Lisbon Session to such extent as might be necessary to give effect to this decision; and that, in so far as this procedure involved taking decisions "under suspension of the rules" in cases where the prescribed advertisement procedure had not been complied with, the cases in question

should be duly advertised as soon as might be practicable after the conclusion of the Lisbon Congress and that no *Opinion* should be rendered and published thereon until after the expiry of a period of one year from the date on which the said advertisement was despatched to the prescribed journals for publication. The case of the genus *Locusta* Linnaeus was one of the cases in question and was accordingly dealt with by the Commission under the above procedure.

13. This case was considered by the International Commission at their meeting held on Monday, 16th September 1935 (Lisbon Session, 2nd Meeting, Conclusion 18³), when the Commission agreed:—

- (a) to take note that the present was an application submitted by specialists under the invitation contained in the Resolution adopted by the International Commission at their meeting held at Padua on 30th August 1930, and reaffirmed in *Opinion* 124, for a name (*Locusta*) published by Linnaeus in 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10)) as a subdivision of a genus (*Gryllus* Linnaeus, 1758) to be accepted as of that date (1758) as of subgeneric value under the International Rules;
- (b) to "suspend the rules" in the case of the name *Locusta* Linnaeus and, under the said "suspension of the rules," to declare:—
 - (i) that the said name *Locusta* Linnaeus shall be accepted as of subgeneric value as from 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 431); and
 - (ii) that the type of *Locusta* Linnaeus, 1758, so validated, shall be *Gryllus migratorius* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 432);
- (c) to place the generic name *Locusta* Linnaeus, 1758, as validated in (b) above and with the type there specified, on the *Official List of Generic Names*;
- (d) to render an *Opinion* in the sense of (a) to (c) above.

14. The foregoing decisions were embodied in paragraph 26 of the report⁴ which at their meeting held on the morning of Wednesday, 18th September 1935, the Commission unanimously agreed (Lisbon Session, 5th Meeting, Conclusion 6) to submit to the Twelfth International Congress of Zoology.

15. At the same meeting the Commission agreed (Lisbon Session, 5th Meeting, Conclusion 10⁵) that Commissioner Karl Jordan (*President of the Commission*) and the new Secretary to the Commission, when elected, should be authorised to make such arrangements, and to take such other action, as might appear to them necessary or expedient:—

- (i) to establish the Secretariat of the Commission at its new headquarters;

³ See 1943, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 1 : 16.

⁴ See 1943, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 1 : 59.

⁵ See 1943, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 1 : 48.

- (ii) to secure the due publication of the *Opinions* agreed upon from time to time by the Commission;
- (iii) to give effect to the decisions reached by the Commission at their Lisbon Session;
- (iv) to obtain the finance required for the due functioning of the Commission; and generally
- (v) to secure the effective continuance of the work of the Commission.

16. The report adopted by the Commission on the morning of Wednesday, 18th September 1935, was unanimously approved by the Section on Nomenclature at its joint meeting with the International Commission held on the afternoon of the same day. It was thereupon submitted to the Twelfth International Congress of Zoology by which it was unanimously approved and adopted at the Concilium Plenum held on Saturday, 21st September 1935, the last day of the Congress.

17. In accordance with the decision taken by the Commission at Lisbon in regard to their procedure at that Session (paragraph 12 above), the case of *Locusta* Linnaeus was duly advertised in 1936 in two or more of the journals named in the Resolution adopted by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology held at Monaco in March 1913, by which the said International Congress conferred upon the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature plenary power to suspend the rules as applied to any given case where, in the judgment of the Commission, the strict application of the rules would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity.⁶ In the period that has elapsed since the advertisement in the said journals of the proposed suspension of the rules in the case of *Locusta* Linnaeus, no communication has been addressed to the Commission raising objection to the solution proposed in regard to the name *Locusta* Linnaeus. One communication has, however, been received expressing the view that the suspension of the rules is not necessary to secure the desired end. This communication, which was dated 1st March 1937 and bore the signature of Dr. S. A. Rohwer, was addressed to the Commission in the name of the Committee on Nomenclature of the Entomological Society of Washington. The passage in that document relating to *Locusta* Linnaeus reads as follows:—

Locusta L. was proposed as a subdivision of *Gryllus*, with several included species—among them, *migratorius* L. (*Syst. Nat.* 10, p. 442⁷). The case has been briefly but ably reviewed by Uvarov, 1921 (*Bull. ent. Res.* 12 : 136),

⁶ See Declaration 5 (1943, *Opinions and Declarations rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature* 1 : 31-40).

⁷ The reference here given as "442" is a typist's error for "432".

who shows that Curtis, 1836 (*Brit. Ent.* 3 : 608) definitely named *migratorius* type of *Locusta*. As he points out this is in accord with Linnaeus' conception of his genus *Gryllus Locusta* as well as conforming with the International Rules.⁸ It appears that no action under suspension of the Rules⁸ is necessary in this case.

18. Immediately upon its receipt by the Commission, copies of the document from which the above is an extract were communicated (April 1937) to each member of the Commission, but since that date no member of the Commission has expressed himself as being in agreement with the views expressed therein.

19. The communication received in regard to the name *Locusta* Linnaeus quoted in paragraph 17 above was considered—together with certain representations similarly received in regard to the name *Phaneroptera* Serville⁹—at a Plenary Conference between the President of the Commission and the Secretary to the Commission convened in London on 19th June 1939 under the authority of the Resolution adopted by the Commission at their meeting held on 18th September 1935 (for the text of which see paragraph 15 above). The Conference (Plenary Conference, 1st Meeting, Conclusion II¹⁰):—

- (a) took note that within the twelve months following the advertisement of the action proposed, representations had been received from the Committee on Nomenclature of the Entomological Society of Washington in regard to the names *Locusta* Linnaeus and *Phaneroptera* Serville;
- (b) took note that, although a copy of the communication referred to above had been transmitted to each member of the Commission immediately upon its receipt, no member of the Commission had expressed himself as being in agreement with the representations contained therein;
- (c) agreed that the communication referred to in (a) above brought forward no data and adduced no considerations that had not been before the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature when at Lisbon in 1935 they approved the recommendations in favour of the suspension of the rules in these cases submitted to them by the International Committee on Entomological Nomenclature in resolutions adopted during the meeting of the Sixth International Congress of Entomology at Madrid in the same year;
- (d) agreed that, in view of (b) and (c) above, the proper course for the present Conference in the discharge of the duties entrusted to it by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (Lisbon Session, 5th Meeting, Conclusion 10) was to give effect to the decision set out in paragraph 26 of the report of the Lisbon Session in regard to the names *Locusta* Linnaeus and *Phaneroptera* Serville and therefore that *Opinions* should be issued as soon as possible in the sense

⁸ See, however, paragraphs 8 and 9 of the present *Opinion*.

⁹ For the decision of the Commission in regard to *Phaneroptera* Serville, see *Opinion* 154 (1944, *Opinions and Declarations rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature* 2 : 209-226).

¹⁰ See 1943, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 1 : 79-80.

indicated in the said paragraph of the Commission's report that had been approved and adopted by the Twelfth International Congress of Zoology at the Concilium Plenum held at Lisbon on 21st September 1935.

20. The present *Opinion* was concurred in by the twelve (12) Commissioners and Alternates present at the Lisbon Session of the Commission, namely:—

Commissioners:—Calman; Hemming; Jordan; Pellegrin; Peters; and Stejneger.

Alternates:—do Amaral *vice* Cabrera; Ohshima *vice* Esaki; Bradley *vice* Stone; Beier *vice* Handlirsch; Arndt *vice* Richter; and Mortensen *vice* Apstein.

21. The present *Opinion* was dissented from by no Commissioner or Alternate present at the Lisbon Session. Nor since that Session has any Commissioner who was neither present on that occasion nor represented thereat by an Alternate indicated disagreement with the conclusions then reached by the Commission in this matter. The following five (5) Commissioners who were not present at Lisbon nor represented thereat by Alternates did not vote on the present *Opinion*:—

Bolivar y Pieltain; Chapman; Fantham; Silvestri; and Stiles.

22. At the time when the vote was taken on the present *Opinion*, there was one (1) vacancy in the Commission consequent upon the death of Commissioner Horváth.

IV.—AUTHORITY FOR THE ISSUE OF THE PRESENT *OPINION*.

WHEREAS the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held at Monaco in March 1913, adopted a Resolution conferring upon the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, acting for the International Congress of Zoology, Plenary Power to suspend the rules as applied to any given case, where, in the judgment of the Commission, the strict application of the said rules would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity, provided that not less than one year's notice of the possible suspension of the rules as applied to the said case should be given in two or more of five journals named in the said Resolution, and provided that the vote in the Commission was unanimously in favour of the proposed suspension of the rules; and

WHEREAS the suspension of the rules is required to give valid force to the provisions of the present *Opinion* as set out in the summary thereof; and

WHEREAS not less than one year's notice of the possible suspension of the rules as applied to the present case has been given to two or more of the journals referred to in the Resolution adopted by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held at Monaco in March 1913; and

WHEREAS the vote in the Commission at their Lisbon Session was unanimously in favour of the issue of an *Opinion* in the terms of the present *Opinion*;

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, FRANCIS HEMMING, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, acting in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon me in that behalf by reason of holding the said Office of Secretary to the International Commission, hereby announce the said *Opinion* on behalf of the International Commission, acting for the International Congress of Zoology, and direct that it be rendered and printed as *Opinion* Number One Hundred and Fifty Eight (*Opinion* 158) of the said Commission.

In faith whereof, I, the undersigned FRANCIS HEMMING, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, have signed the present *Opinion*.

DONE in London, this fifteenth day of May, Nineteen Hundred and Forty Three, in a single copy, which shall remain deposited in the archives of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature.*

FRANCIS HEMMING

THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE COMMISSION.

(obtainable at the Publications Office of the Commission at 41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7.)

Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature.

This journal has been established by the International Commission as their Official Organ in order to provide a medium for the publication of:—

- (a) proposals on zoological nomenclature submitted to the International Commission for deliberation and decision;
- (b) comments received from, and correspondence by the Secretary with, zoologists on proposals published in the *Bulletin* under (a) above; and
- (c) papers on nomenclatorial implications of developments in taxonomic theory and practice.

The *Bulletin* was established in 1943, in which year three Parts were published. Part 4 was published in 1944 and Parts 5 and 6 are in the press.

Opinions and Declarations Rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

The above work is being published in three volumes concurrently, namely:—

Volume 1. This volume will contain *Declarations* 1-9 (which have never previously been published) and *Opinions* 1-133 (the original issue of which is now out of print). Parts 1-16 (containing *Declarations* 1-9 and *Opinions* 1-7) have now been published. Further Parts will be published shortly.

Volume 2. This volume will be issued in 52 Parts, comprising all the decisions taken by the International Commission at their meeting at Lisbon in 1935, namely *Declarations* 10-12 (with Roman pagination) and *Opinions* 134-181 (with Arabic pagination). Part 52 will contain the index and title page of the volume. Parts 1-29, containing *Declarations* 10-12 and *Opinions* 134-159, have now been published. Further Parts will be published shortly.

Volume 3. This volume, which commenced with *Opinion* 182, will contain the *Opinions* adopted by the International Commission since their meeting at Lisbon in 1935. Parts 1-4 (containing *Opinions* 182-185) have now been published. Further Parts will be published as soon as possible.

APPEAL FOR FUNDS

The International Commission appeal earnestly to all institutions and individuals interested in the development of zoological nomenclature to contribute, according to their means, to the Commission's Special (Publications) Fund. Of the total sum of £1,800 required to enable the Commission to issue all the publications now awaiting printing, donations amounting to £819 8s. 7d. were received up to 31st December 1944. Additional contributions are urgently needed in order to enable the Commission to continue their work without interruption. Contributions of any amount, however small, will be most gratefully received.

Contributions should be sent to the International Commission at their Publications Office, 41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W. 7, and made payable to the "International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature or Order" and crossed "Account payee. Coutts & Co."